

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SJR 635**

March 2, 2012

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Proposes amending Article VI, Sections 3 and 7 and Article VII, Section 5 of the Tennessee Constitution to provide for the popular election of Judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Court of Criminal Appeals from districts to be established by the General Assembly. Judges shall be elected at the regular August election by the qualified voters of the state for an eight year term. Each political party may nominate a candidate for election to each such office and independent candidates may also qualify for each such office. Resolves that this amendment be referred to the 108<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and that this resolution be published in compliance with Article XI, Section 3 of the Tennessee Constitution.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$18,000/One-Time**

Assumptions:

- According to the Secretary of State, the average statewide cost to publish the last three constitutional amendments was \$17,700.
- A one-time cost of \$18,000 to the Secretary of State to print notice of the proposed amendment in statutorily designated newspapers as required by this resolution.
- Because Article XI, Section 3 of the Constitution requires publication of the resolution before the next legislative election, this publication would occur in the spring of 2012.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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